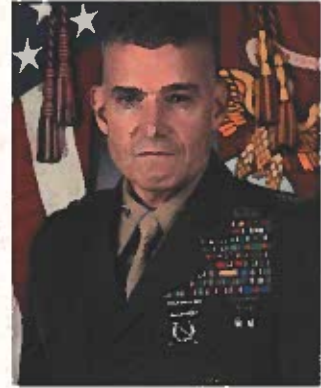


**COMMANDING GENERAL
MARINE CORPS RECRUITING COMMAND**

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE (SAPR) POLICY STATEMENT

Sexual assault is defined as intentional sexual contact, characterized by the use of force, physical threat of force, abuse of authority, or when the victim *does not or cannot* consent. Sexual assault includes rape, nonconsensual sodomy, indecent assault (unwanted, inappropriate sexual contact or fondling), or attempts to commit these acts. The crime of sexual assault is not restricted by gender, age, spousal relationship or age of victim.



Sexual assault is contrary to the foundational Marine Corps Core Values of Honor, Courage, Commitment. It has no place within our ranks. When sexual assault is proven, violators will be held accountable and punished in accordance with the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ). Witnessing any such activity without taking action is just as equally incriminating and complicit. Being a passive bystander is not an option and will not be tolerated. Bystanders to potential assaults must take decisive action to prevent these incidents from occurring.

Victims of sexual assault have two (2) reporting options: Unrestricted and Restricted Reporting. Both forms afford the victim emotional/psychological support, advocacy, medical assistance, and counseling.

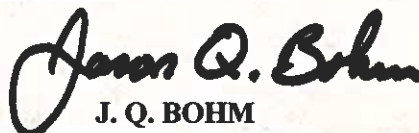
Unrestricted Reporting includes all suspected, alleged, or actual sexual assaults made known to law enforcement for formal investigation. An Unrestricted Report may be made to a Uniformed Victim Advocate (UVA), Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC), Civilian Victim Advocate (VA), Victim's Legal Counsel (VLC), or a health care provider (HCP), Chaplain, DoD SAFE Helpline, and the Sexual Assault Support Line(s).

Restricted Reporting affords victims of sexual assault the option to make a confidential report *without notification of law enforcement or the Command*. Restricted Reports may only be given to a UVA, SARC, VA, VLC, HCP, or Chaplain for the initiation of supportive services and information.

Victim safety, rights, and confidentiality are paramount. All victims are entitled to be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect, regardless of their reporting option. Commanders will ensure victims receive appropriate medical, psychological, and social services support – all without prejudice or fear of reprisal. Those who have the courage to report must feel confident their personal safety will be protected and that they will not be ignored, ostracized, or re-victimized by the organization.

All commanders will establish command climates where mutual respect, trust and professional values are maintained and reinforced; where being treated with dignity and respect is the norm and never the exception. Every leader is responsible for establishing a climate where ethical misconduct, sexual misconduct, sexist behavior, sexual harassment, and sexual assault are not tolerated, condoned, or ignored.

Sexual assault prevention takes many forms, beginning with the continued education of all hands, and the steadfast attention of commanders and leaders at every level. In line with continued prevention efforts, we will not accept excessive alcohol use, innuendo, or gender-based terminology, or demeaning and inappropriate behavior. Trust and confidence among a cohesive team will enable our continued success in the accomplishment of our common mission.


J. Q. BOHM

Major General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General